

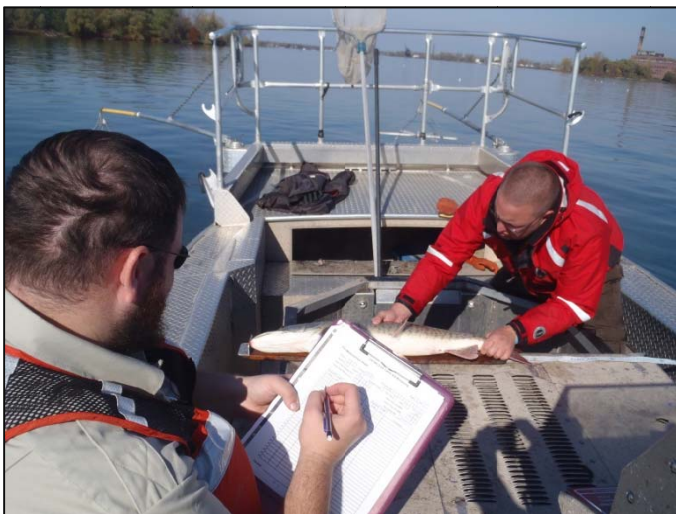


Native and Invasive Species Program Internship Opportunities

Invasive Species Program

This program promotes healthy, balanced ecosystems through the prevention and management of invasive species. Invasive species are non-native plants and animals that can be harmful to native species because they compete for food and habitat.

The Invasive Species program has implemented an early detection program which monitors locations in the Great Lakes that may be susceptible to invasion. Crews survey fish and invertebrate species, utilizing a variety of sampling methods. Early detection crews are on the front lines in the battle to identify invasive species before they are established.



Sampling methods include: Electrofishing, bottom trawling, benthic sledging, and gill-netting. Interns assisting with this program will develop skills and experience in the following areas:

- Water quality analysis (secchi disk, temperature, turbidity, conductivity)
- Fish identification
- Adherence to scientific protocols
- Gear-use (appropriateness, procedure, limitations, advantages)
- Data collection
- Boating experience
- Identification of invasive aquatic plants (water chestnut, *Hydrilla*)
- Invasive species handling procedures
- Outreach
- GPS tracking/logging

Native Species Program

This program promotes the protection and restoration of native fishes throughout the Great Lakes.

Native fish species, such as lake sturgeon, lake trout, walleye, yellow perch, and American eel, inhabit the Great Lakes Basin. The LGLFWCO, in cooperation with state and provincial agencies, works toward the protection and management of these native fish species, as well as several native forage fishes. Projects currently include lake sturgeon population assessment, diet study, juvenile index survey, and also habitat use analysis.



Sampling methods include: Set lines and gill-netting.

Interns assisting with this program will develop skills and experience in the following areas:

- Water quality analysis (secchi disk, temperature, turbidity, conductivity)
- Fish identification
- Adherence to scientific protocols
- Gear-use (appropriateness, procedure, limitations, advantages)
- Data collection
- GPS tracking/ logging
- Boating experience
- Fish tagging
- Genetic and biological sample collection
- Use of radio and acoustic tracking equipment
- Safe handling of protected native species
- Geographic Information Systems
- Outreach

For more information please contact:

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